

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#3/Ret

In re Patent Application of

FAIRMAN et al

Atty. Ref.: 36-1340

Serial No. Unknown

Group:

National Phase of PCT/GB98/03755

Filed: June 6, 2000

Examiner:

For: DATA COMMUNICATIONS

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June 6, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and in order to place the above identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the claims as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 4, line 1, delete "or 3".

Claim 5, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert -- claim 1 --.

Claim 7, line 1, delete "or 6".

Claim 8, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert -- claim 1 --.

Claim 11, line 1, delete "any one of the preceding claims" and insert -- claim 1 --.

Claim 14, line 1, delete "or 13".

Claim 16, line 1, delete "or 15".

Claim 17, lines 1 and 2, delete "any one of claims 1 to 11" and insert
-- claim 1 --.

Claim 20, line 1, delete "or 19".

Claim 24, line 1, delete "any one of claims 1 to 11 and 21" and insert
-- claim 1 --.

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